The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1871. NO. 212.

WASHINGTON.

Closing Hours of the Forty-First Congress.

All the Important Appropriation Bills Passed.

Final Passage of the Southern Pacific Railroad Bill.

High Compliment Paid to Speaker Blaine.

A Retrospective View--How the Lobbyists Have Fared.

List of Agents Appointed to Negotiate the Funding Loan Bonds.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.
WORK IN THE CAPITOL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3.—The afternoon session of the House to-day, was noisy, busy, and good-natured, but fortunately not wearisome to dull, severe hearers.

Mr. Stevens reported that the conference committee could not agree on the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial bill, the Senate insisting on its amendment, which proposes 504 persons, and no new committee was appointed. The conference report was agreed to—Southern (or Texas) Pacific Railroad bill

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SUPREME COURT JUDGES.

One house of the Legislature has, in Committee of the Whole, voted to make the salaries of Judges of the Supreme Court of this State $4,500 a year each. This is certainly as low as they ought to be. The judicial department of the government has the most important functions to perform. The Supreme Court ought to be composed of men eminent, not alone for their professional learning and intellectual ability, but for the purity of their personal characters. These are essential qualities, and the possessors of them all are not so unimportant as some members of the General Assembly suppose. That there will be men found who will take the office at a less salary, or even without any salary, is unquestionably true; the requisite number might be found among the present members of the Assembly, but that is not the kind of court which the public interest demands. The State wants ability and integrity, and should pay for them. It does not want the members of the Supreme Court dependent on outside contributions to support their families. There are men who could fill that office, and, without any salary from the State, make more money annually than they could do at the bar in ten years. We want men who will not only be just, but who will cease to be partisans on the bench. Such men must be paid enough to live in accordance with their position, and to enable them to support their families and educate their children. Judicial services are not to be paid for according to any scale of fair allowance for physical labor, or by any computation of the amounts of food or clothing required by the Judge. The State, in consideration of the service as Judge, should make a fair allowance for the respectable and dignified support of the Judges during their term of office. The pay should be large enough to enable a man having the requisite abilities and character, but poor in worldly means, to accept the office. To provide an inadequate salary is to confine the selection of judges to rich men, or to those who can use their position to enrich themselves, or who will go to the bench to practice. We appeal to the Legislature to protect the State against such a judiciary. We have now a Supreme Court which, in the learning, ability, and personal character of its members, will compare with any court in the country. Shall we provide for the gradual gradation of the other class of courts by these Judges?

The sum of $6,000 is as low as the Legislature ought to go in fixing the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court. It is true economy to pay the court a decent salary. A number of members of the Legislature belong to the agricultural class, and to these appeals are made to give low salaries to the Judges. Of all classes the farmers are most interested in having an Independent and incorruptible judiciary. The railroad corporations of this State would gladly pay the entire salaries of the Supreme Court if the selection of the Judges were given to them. Do those farmers want to drive the selection of the court to the chartered monopolies? If they do, let them vote for cheap Judges.

CHICAGO DISTRICTS.

One of the most senseless of political and municipal divisions ever made is that of the Ninth Ward keeps Chicago in three *divisions*." We have a North Division, a South Division, and a West Division, and our laws perpetuate this nonsense distinction with as much vigor as if we should be called for if these several parts of the city were separate States. It is time to put an end to the stupidity.

The citizens of the First, Tenth, and Twentieth Wards are closer neighbors, territorially, though belonging to separate divisions, than the people of either ward are to those of any other ward in the same division. Yet we have all our wards "districted" organized on the plan of one Commissioner from each division. Officers of executive boards are not representatives. Such boards are to execute general laws. The Police Commissioners represent no politics but their own, not only in the whole city, but in each locality. The Board of Public Works act in the same manner. If the theory be that these Commissioners represent any locality, then the principle of representation is greatly outraged. The West Division has more than half the territory, and more than half the population, and yet its representation is only half that of the other members. In point of fact, the division is kept up for the special benefit of office-seekers and jobbers in politics.

It would be a great relief to this city if the Legislature would repeal every provision of law making or recognizing any distinction between the several parts of this city by the appellation of divisions. There is but one city, and that is an entirety, one corporation and municipality, and not three. There is no more sense in requiring that each "division" shall be entitled to a member in each "board," than there is that each division should have a Mayor, or one of the Judges, or one of the Clerks of the courts. The bills now before the Legislature providing for the appointment of Justices of the Peace preserve this useless division of the city. They should provide for the appointment of a requisite number of competent men, without reference to "divisions," and let the Governor appoint them. A man's fitness for the office of Justice of the Peace ought not to be determined by the fact that he lives at one or the other end of the bridges crossing the river.

Cook County has been sadly misgoverned by a board known as Supervisors. In a county composed of small towns of comparatively equal extent and population, and having similar interests, the government of a Board of Supervisors may be advantageous and just. But in a county where 300,000 people reside in the city and 48,000 outside, and where the 48,000 have a majority of the board, and conspiring with associates among the city members to plunder the city, such a government ceases to be respectable or honest. A majority of the members of the late board were elected in towns not having as many as 600 votes each. In the city, they were elected in wards. They were first nominated, generally dishonestly, at a ward caucus of about one-fourth of the voters of their own party; having obtained the "regular" nomination, they had their names included on tickets so elaborately and inextricably engraved as to prevent scratching, and thus were elected. There was seldom any desire to scratch, because the opposing candidates were, as a general thing, equally disreputable. These are the people who ruled Cook County for several years, and, being clothed with full powers, perpetrated their own enhancement at the cost of the public. When the Constitutional Convention provided that the affairs of this county should hereafter be managed by a board of fifteen Commissioners, there was an universal approval from all respectable citizens. The Legislature has to prescribe the manner in which these Commissioners are to be elected. The constitution requires that five shall be chosen from the territory outside of the city, and ten from the territory within the city. The ringleaders and Captains of the old organization are busy to get control of the new board. They want the territory outside of the city put by the small population of districts that can be easily manipulated. They want the city members to be also districted, thus reviving and perpetuating the worst evils of the old system which the constitution sought to abolish. The Cook County delegation is divided on the subject. There is not an unconvicted thief who ever was a Supervisor who is not a champion of the district system, under which he expects to renew his official life.

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These non-threaten and bully, and some of our delegation are weak enough to yield to importunities from a class of men who, under any other mode of selection, can never be elected.

The Legislature should, in justice to the 350,000 people of the county, and to the $325,000,000 of taxable property, carry out, in the spirit as well as the letter, the reform provided for in the new constitution. It should give to the whole people of the county the right to vote for all the men who are to compose this board, and no restriction ought to be placed on that right. The Legislature ought to submit the question of the location of the county seat to the people. The Legislature ought to summarily dispose of all attempts to use it to create "districts" for particular persons, and particularly for other local persons would further be nominated or elected if presented to the voters of the county at large. If any persons, ambitious of being County Commissioners, know that they have no hope of election, save as a district, they also know that they are the very men of whom the public want to be rid, and the Legislature ought not to favor such persons on this score simply. There is much and about nothing in the absurdity of the Republican party, but the best way to do that is to give the Republican party the means of getting rid of the candidacy and election of men notoriously unfit for office, but who, under this district system, will manage to fasten themselves upon the party tickets.

THE STATE CANAL.

The State of Illinois owns the Illinois and Michigan Canal. It has cost, from first to last, including interest and compound interest, in round numbers, $10,000,000. It ought to be a source of revenue, yearly yielding 12% per cent on all competing roads. The canal is but a complement of the Illinois River. It offers to all the counties on the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers, as well as those on the Illinois River, cheap freights to and from the lakes. Since the canal was first contemplated there has been a reduction in the ordinary depth of water in the Illinois River, and this has interfered greatly with the earnings of the canal. Last year all business on the canal from the river ceased after June. The canal must, therefore, be practically abandoned or the river must be made navigable. The State has expended something on the river, and so has the General Government; but, until the river is by locks or slackwater navigation rendered equal to the demands of navigation, the canal revenues must remain wholly disproportioned to the value and cost of the work, and the canal cease to have the least effect upon competing railroads.

The true policy is to push the work on the river to completion, so that parts will permit a continuous navigation of both canal and river. When this is done, Lake Michigan may be safely depended upon for all the water needed for both. The reduction of the cost of this great work by reservoirs of the canal is raised prematurely by those opposed to the canal. If the whole State can afford to lose the whole canal, we suppose Chicago can bear the loss as well as the rest. But Chicago is not so deeply interested in its special lien as it is in making the canal as nearly a free highway as possible for the whole State; and, therefore, it is that this city wants the river kept in navigable order.

"A BARBAROUS PARADE."

This is the phrase by which the New York *World* designates the march of the German troops into Paris. It is, says that journal:

"A mere display of triumphant insolence, which can only add to the bitterness of the conflicts, and alike recognizant of heroic magnanimity and of heroic endurance. The whole transaction is on anybody than in poor timid on the part of the Germans."

Now, as mere eloquence, this will go down very well, especially with the *World's* Democratic constituency; whose prejudices have been on the French side from the first, because that side was represented by Napoleon, the greatest despot of modern times, and because the Republicans naturally sided with the more liberal and self-governing Germans. People who will form prejudices on such narrow grounds will naturally allow those prejudices to control their views of all questions, and to such people, of course, whatever the Germans do, is, by that token, wrong.

But, to the unprejudiced observer of events, no matter how much his sympathies have been aroused for France—as all our sympathies have been by her distress and prostration of late—the determination of the Emperor William to allow his troops to enter Paris appears as only the natural and proper reward of the bravery and endurance on their part which has enabled their commander to capture Paris. Those who have had occasion to witness reviews will especially appreciate the feelings of the German soldiery, and the violence which would be done to those feelings by refusing them the sight of that city which has been the object of their ambition and their daring through all this bloody war. In the camp, in the bivouac, on the tiresome march, and on the deadly field, the cry of "Nach Paris!" has inspired their hearts and lent superior vigor to their limbs. It would have been almost as much as Kaiser William's crown was worth to turn those march soldiers back without even such as a look at the inside of Paris—embodying, as it does—for "Paris is France"—the haughty nation which they had so brilliantly, though so terribly, conquered. Such a refusal would have been unjustly humiliating after the blustering threat which Paris made of resisting by forces, and arms any entry of the Germans into the city.

In short, this triumphal entry of Paris, instead of being "of no advantage to Germany," is almost as much a necessity of war as was the destruction of one railway or the building of another. That is, it is necessary to the morale of the army, not only now, but in William's next campaign. The sentimentality that would prohibit this "parade" and denounce it as "barbarous," would hold equally good against the very capture of the city, or the original invasion of France.

The Legislature seems to be embarrassed as to proper provision for the punishment of the incorrigible class of juvenile offenders. The State has provided the prisons, but there is a hitch in the matter of how the boys are to be punished. The difficulty consists in the assumption that boys and girls having drunken and worthless parents must be criminal to an extent justifying their arrest and detention in prison for the rest of their minority, and to be then sent to the penitentiary for a certain number of years. This assumption has recently been exploded by the Supreme Court, which has decided that the State may no longer punish boys of liberty, except as a punishment for crime of which they have been convicted, than it can do so in the case of an adult. It is the difficulty of settling down to this legal statement of juvenile delinquency that embarrasses the Legislature and the gentlemen who manage reformatory schools. There is nothing which prevents the State separating boys and girls from older prisoners convicted of crime, but we question whether the Legislature can lawfully provide five or ten years' imprisonment for petty larceny, or riot, or any other offence, when committed by a boy, and not have an equal penalty for the same offence when committed by a man. If a wife-beater gets ninety days in the Bridewell, we do not see how a boy convicted of fighting with another should get six years.

Among the swindles perpetrated in the closing hours of Congress is the one relating to a bridge over the Ohio River, from Cincinnati to Newport. Congress gave its consent to a railroad company to build this bridge, no objection being made. After the bridge had been half constructed, the city of Cincinnati, and the river folks generally, protested that the bridge was too low. Congress was appealed to, that, as the bridge was an obstruction to a commerce which might at some time appear on the river, it should be removed. The company compelled to raise it in height. A sham-fight has been going on in Congress upon this question, in which the "high bridge" advocates ("associated") that the railroad companies had "vested rights," but nevertheless it was the duty of Congress to remove the obstructions to navigation. The result has been, as was foretold from the beginning, that the United States has been found guilty in the case, and, therefore, Congress has voted that the bridge shall be raised to 100 feet above high water mark, and the cost of the change shall be paid by the United States. A more glaring outrage, or more successful job, has not passed Congress for many years.

Mr. Logan complained, in Congress, on Thursday, that the West could not obtain, with any reasonable promptness, the legislation necessary to secure her rightful representation in Congress. Whereupon Mr. Banks rises, and, in a manner ofensively patronizing, assures the West that "at the proper time—as early as new appointments have been made heretofore"—we should have the legislation which we crave. Now, it so happens that the growing West has almost always been cheated out of its deserts in this respect for the new Congressional term following each census—so consciously have the Representatives of the stationary East held on to the respite of power which they have been enjoying, but which each succeeding decade threatened to wrest from their grasp. Accordingly, it is not at all satisfactory to the West to be pompously informed by Mr. Banks that "when the proper time comes" we shall have our rights.

It is customary to speak of Boston as a Yankee city, and of Massachusetts as the Yankee State, *par excellence*; but some recent figures from the State census, which we find in the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, serve to dispel this idea most effectually. Of the four largest cities of the State, Boston, Worcester, Lawrence, and Fall River, as many as three are chiefly inhabitants as foreign. Out of Boston's 248,866 inhabitants, 158,116 have either father or mother, or both, of foreign descent, and of the 345,758 people in the four cities, only 127,781 are of unmixed native blood. If the record of births during the past five or ten years were furnished, it would show, either of Boston or Chicago, it is still more astonishing figures, how the native American element is passing into the minority.

There are at this time no less than three Governors of as many States undergoing the pleasant process of impeachment. Governor Holden, in North Carolina, is already on trial. Governor Clayton has been impeached, but his trial is not yet commenced. Inasmuch as his term as United States Senator commences to-day, it is probable he will terminate the impeachments by resigning the office of Governor. In Nebraska, Governor Butler has been impeached, and his trial will take place in a few days. In the meantime, there is a question whether, pending an impeachment trial, he is not suspended as Governor. Impeachments of Governors of States have been of frequent occurrence, and we do not know of a case where a conviction has ever taken place.

"Little and lively" has been exemplified in the case of Rhode Island, she being the first of the States to respond to the generous invitation of Congress to have a share in the many wishes of the Capitol the memorable effigies of one or more distinguished men from each State, the statues to be paid for by the respective States. Rhode Island has reserved and served Roger Williams and Nathaniel Greene—two gentlemen about whose heads there is much glory, and whose images, it is to be hoped, the iconoclasts at Washington will not be allowed to smash as fiercely as Bancroft and others have smashed, or attempted to smash, their reputations on the page of history.

The act is creditable to Little Rhody—but whose are her statues? Rhode Island, like Illinois, one of the greatest, as Rhode Island is the smallest, of the family of States? Surely we do not look for subjects of statues, as styx once stood a stout who bore a prosaic name, Chicago biographies. The trouble with the Legislature is doubtless the *embarras de richesse*. Who shall decide when all the claims are worthy, and, especially, where so many are well adapted in their portly persons and pompous records for doing duty in bronze? We have not seen any mention in the Legislative proceedings of a bill for the chiselling of a Sucker statesman or two, to be sent to Washington in chaste dress (no fig leaves) and knock the spots off General Greene; but something of the sort may be expected any day. In the gulf of time more than one statue will be found in two or three at Governors at Springfield within the past day or two has some connection with the candidacy for the stateship.

We are [illegible] man says Rev. Dr. Bingham, pastor of the Little Church Around the Corner, has rescinded the invitation tendered to the Fisk Guards to act as escort-of-honor, after accepting the donation of nearly $2,000, raised for him by the escort to perform the services. It will be seen, by reading scale in the future, and are again going to take the chances of their cultivation."

A two-year old child of John Marcks, of Vincennes, was burned to death on Thursday night. Its mother had been out on fire by a sister two years older.

The Evansville *Journal* says: "William Johnson, a native of Huntingdonshire, England, who was a soldier in the British army at Waterloo, died in this city on Friday last, aged 87 years. Johnson was one of the few survivors of the battle of several weeks, aged 87 years. Johnson was in some respects a remarkable man; he had seen important events since, from the battle in this city, twice in the State of New York, and once in the first battle of Manassas."

The Huntington *Democrat* says: John Stutzman, who killed a man at Mahon, Huntington County, some years ago, and escaped from the County Jail, whence he made his escape by means of skeleton keys, was rearrested at or near Springfield, Illinois, and brought back, tried and acquitted—was lodged in Kansas for murder and broke-detained a few weeks since, and was rearrested to answer to murder by one John Miller, who formerly owned and lived on the farm now owned by O. B. Hight, Esq., near Roanoke. He pled not guilty, and Miller and one of his sons were taken in charge by a body of regulators, who shot him and his other son with a strong cord and a secret shaft.

SACRAMENTO.

A bill now pending before the Michigan Senate provides for the appropriation by the State of Michigan annually, for four years, for a Professorship of Medical Colleges, to be located by discussion in the Regents, at such place as shall contribute most to the endowment and support of the college to be under the supervision and control of the said Regents, and to be a part of the institution now owned by the State. Dr. J. C. Hempel offers $50,000 toward this object, and Dr. J. S. Hale, of Detroit, says he is pretty sure of a like amount from one men there, and half the sum from another. The site will, doubtless, be to locate the new medical school at Ann Arbor, where the Michigan school is situated.

MINNESOTA.

Here is how the Dubuque Herald Correspondent of its City Fathers: "The Common Council met together. They talked until 9 o'clock; adjourned a few minutes; met again and talked until 12 o'clock; told a few stories, and then adjourned."

There was a grander time at Minneapolis City, about Wednesday, on Friday of last week. So elegantly was the rise of the streams on the night of Thursday, that many families were first made aware of the fact by the appearance of the water in their houses. The amount of damage is estimated at $10,000.

MISSOURI.

Professor Swallow, of the Missouri Theological Seminary, claims that stone statute contains larger trees than California, and tells of a sycamore forty-two feet in circumference.

OHIO.

The Columbus *Statesman* says: "Dr. Jay T. Gatchell is taking his first lessons in practical anatomy at the Penitentiary."

A Delaware photographer has a contract for 10,000 photographs of the two-headed child of Ohio, once the rapist baby.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The manufacture of linen last year in Ireland was greater than ever before.

Virginia made 65,000 gallons of fruit brandy last year.

The Fall Season has been the wettest known in Australia for three years, causing severe losses to the sheep-masters.

Whalebone corsets are fashionable in Honolulu.

Twenty women study medicine to the colleges at Zurich, Switzerland. They also attend the political lectures at the Schweizerhaus.

The recent mint drops at Great Britain produced last year 107,260,000 lions, worth £37,000,000, and the furnaces made 2,000,000 tons of pig iron.

The estimated value of the real estate in Virginia is $218,093,387, and of personal property $85,-397,000. Increase, in one year, $21,000,000.

There were six suicides during one day last week in New York.

Twenty Boston street ladies have sent $2,000 to Europe for the purchase of articles to be sold at the sales at the French Fair in Boston.

The Government of Great Britain and Ireland voted in favor of the American system of cheese and butter, as the use of tea and beer have already been introduced are working admirably.

—It is said that no fewer than $2,000 to $5,000 in counterfeit are waiting about the Treasury Department, Germany, and Italy for the earliest opportunity to return to Paris.

—It cost to dig the cement under the New York Post Office and wall it up, from $400,000 to $1,000,000. This is an official statement made in the House of Representatives.

—In consequence of the recent numerous publications by West Point cadets relative to the late disturbances, General Pitcher, the superintendent, has called their attention to the army regulations, which forbid all publications by officers and cadets relative to transactions at the Military academy.

—A bill says in Massachusetts who "remembers Washington," has rather overdone it. She asserts that he presented a pocket to her MAYE town to attend the annual fall muster.

—A Boston Bank Director, whose property is valued at two millions, said a friend recently that he had to borrow money to buy bank stock, "because somebody is always stealing," and that he owns only ten shares, and those in the bank of which he is a Director, and, therefore, safe.

—The Concord (N. H.) *Patriot* furnishes the latest bear story—it is the capture of a bear killed by hay on the 25th of December made her way out on the 16th of February, lively but lean.

—A Detroit lady who had been married but a short time ago, and who had been in the habit of buying her groceries by the pound, recently sent her husband to the store for a pound of tea. He returned, and when he returned home the old lady demanded an interest on her money, and inquired which the tea was entitled to getting her a needle.

—A New Orleans merchant, who failed to return a case of champagne bottles, has received a most delicate inquiry, and frankly, by means of the receipts given by an undertaker, ascertained that it had been used for a wake and a cake. But this was before the funeral sermon, he supposing the box contained the mortal remains of a man who, at one another time and which he was notified would come by the same train.

—Mr. Hiram Walbridge has the material for a coin of "Old Folks." There are 13 persons living there whose united ages make an aggregate of 1,300 years. On Monday last they had a celebration of his 99d birthday.

—Under the head of "Personal" a Pennsylvania editor writes as a speed of a rival in the profession: "The mass of condensed slimi extracted from Halstead street and the end of every sentence with the shape of a man, and placed in the editorial chair, and the filth of the hovel in which the youngster dwells in the back room of his father's shaking his carrion paws at a party of ladies and gentlemen—who are so far his superiors that they have sounds of food. A gentleman came upon his many carcass—because he did not get deodorizers—to debate in favor of the proposition being held at the Union Hall for the suffering poor.

—Shortly after Paris capitulated there was a sudden appearance in the shops of chickens, eggs, butter, rabbits, and other articles of food that had been almost entirely absent for months. Efforts were attempted to sell these commodities at outrageous prices. The result was that in the course of a few days they were seized on them, giving ordinary prices for the same. The hucksters cried in despair, but the people were greatly delighted, and declared that the days of the Directory had come back. This was the cry the National Guard was itself the touch.

—The New Orleans Sixth District Court recently decided a case of cotton on the ground of necessary relief to the laborers in its production. The accounts was disallowed, because the articles furnished were not of a character to be considered as such a purpose. The Judge thus[illegible] "whiskey by the barrel, wines by the gallon, whiskey by the quart and whiskey by the pint; fish hooks and fishing lines, ladies' fine glasses, sugar candy, and a large assortment of hair dye, jewsharps, Newfoundland fifteen."

—At the completion of the Mont Cenis tunnel, the last thin partition of rock was broken by the orthodox celebration. But a small hole was left in the centre of the partition, and, when the workmen on either side, who had for thirteen years and forty days been toiling their way to each other, heard the voice of the one on the other's faces through it, shook hands, and, so far as of the same nationality, conversed together. The hole was then filled up, and the work of the tunnel was finished. It is 7½ miles long, and the distance of about 1,000 yards around the spot. The first to come over the fragments of rock was the Prince of Piedmont, and he was followed by the chief of the Ponts-et-Chaussées, and then by the official from all sides, who had for thirteen years and forty days been toiling their way to each other, heard the voice of the one on the other's faces through it, shook hands, and, so far as of the same nationality, conversed together. The hole was then filled up, and the work of the tunnel was finished. It is 7½ miles long, and the distance of about 1,000 yards around the spot. The first to come over the fragments of rock was the Prince of Piedmont, and he was followed by the chief of the Ponts-et-Chaussées, and then by the official from all sides and cries of "Vive l'Italie."

—At Morris Station, Alabama, on Tuesday of last week, a negro man, who was down in a deep hole digging a well, called to the boy at the top of the well fooling to over him. By some means the curing over his head, when it gave way, got between the boy in the well and the top of the well, preventing from falling upon him with sufficient force to cause his death. The boy was taken out in formation, he had been in there for four days and nights, calling for help and conversing with those who passed by, but was unable by any physical exertion to relieve him from his horrible situation.

—A circular has been issued to the friends of the late Commodore Vanderbilt, in which they are invited on the college grounds a building for a fireproof library, consisting of two stories, for the keeping of the books secured by the fund of the "Elizabeth Foundation," a fund of $4,000 per annum given by him to the college for the purchase of books by Mr. John C. Green, of New York city. The new building is intended also to be a depository for all the books of the institution. The circular is signed by Chancellor Ferry, the trustees, and the fund of $6,000 per annum is to be applied to the purchase of books, binding, and repairing, other donations and contributions. A case fifteen feet long, with seven shelves, will, it is estimated, hold one thousand volumes. Each additional two volumes, at this rate, the circular suggests, would require a linear space of more than three miles and a half.

—The organ of the Parish Society of Natural History contains a curious account of the transit of the glacier of Monte Rosa during the last sixty years. For fifty years it steadily and surely approached the town of Zermatt, moving at the rate of about three feet a week during the spring months. In war was through pastures and grain fields, over which it passed like a devouring pestilence. Its approach was heralded by great bowlders which it kept constantly moving before it. Serious injuries to the crops at the time entertained for the safety of the town, which lay directly in its path. But during the last six years this ice monster has changed the direction of its movement, and thus the danger has been averted; but the fields through which its track lay are never be again cultivated on account of the many immense fragments of stone which were left behind by its much blacked, and which are deeply imbedded in the soil.

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A grandson of Daniel O'Connell lectured in Boston on Monday night.

—John Bright, when last heard from, was on a salmon-fishing excursion in Scotland.

—Mrs. A. G. Bowles, of Springfield, Mass., is lecturing on the subject of "Meddling Women."

—The Syrian chalice presented by Pacheco to Queen Isabella is exhibited entire at the London Crystal Palace.

—M. Gramouff, a timber merchant of St. Petersburg, died two years ago, and left $5,000 per annum to his heirs, who, it is said, have already exceeded the wishes of it.

—Gen. Robert Byron Evans is now on Spanish service in Fernandina, Florida, for picking pockets at a funeral.

—A daughter of Dr. Howe, one of the San Domingo commissioners, was married on a thanksgiving poem, composited by her joy on hearing of the marriage.

—The sub ject of James T. Fields' first lecture will be, it is rumored, Thackeray, with critical remarks on his works, and personal impressions of the man.

—Lydia Smiley, a woman upward of 80 years old, died in Cincinnati on Sunday last, and was a native of Rhode Island State Prison for poisoning her husband, has been pardoned.

—Mr. Longfellow has brought in his 71d year, is as clear in brain and vigorous in body as he was when he wrote poetry, and the hair laughingly says he will live to be Minister to his 100th birthday before he yields.

—The Crown Prince of Prussia thinks he knows enough about war now to write a book about it, and is going at it when he gets home.

—Von Roon, the Prussian Minister of War, has been fifty-five years in the service of his government, and has suffered greatly from exposure and privation upon the [illegible] war, of several near and dear relatives.

—Bucharest dispatches to Cincinnati to Roumania, received no money from the government, but the Israelites of this country have contributed $15,000 to help him for the last four years he will reside in Bucharest.

—A touch gracile monument to the memory of the Hon. James Guthrie will be erected in Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville. It is forty feet high, and is surmounted by a statue of Mr. Guthrie, in bronze. It was executed by Ward, and cost $15,000.

—A Wesleyan friar, Guiseppe Barzoni, wished to pray the part of Peter the Hermit, and excite a crusade against the enemies of Pio Nono, who, the more Sodomite, has been deprived of all temporal power freedom in the God-appointed city (Rome). Barzoni is thought to be of unsound mind.

—A son of Marie Taglioni, the celebrated dancer, is one of the few esprits French officers who obtained permission to remain in Berlin during the war. His mother, with whom he resides, is a brother of Taglioni, and director of the royal Prussian ballet.

—The Hartford *Mercury* gives a remarkable instance of the loyalty of a servant. Mrs. Lucy Abny, aged 91 years, entered the service of Mrs. Ann Austin, in 1806, and on the "day of Mrs. Austin's funeral, a few days ago, had lived with her 61 years.

—Gen. Thurlow Weed's memory is again at fault. In his Reminiscences he speaks of having been invited by Abbott Lawrence to meet the Duke of Wellington, at dinner, and expresses his mortification at losing the chance of "three hours of intelligent conversation with the conqueror of Napoleon." At the time to which he refers the Duke of Wellington was in his grave!

—Mrs. Lincoln and her family have arrived at Pau, in Hagan, and settled into the residence which the Queen of Portugal has provided for them upon his many carcass—because he did not get deodorizers—to debate in favor of the proposition being held at the Union Hall for the suffering poor.

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FINANCIAL.

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SAFE! PROFITABLE! PERMANENT!

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Northern Pacific Railroad Co.

THE LAW COURTS.

Important Real Estate Decision by the Supreme Court.

The Power of Agents to Enforce the Performance of Contracts.

What it Cost to Interfere in Another Man's Business.

Supreme Court.

REAL ESTATE FRAUDS.

There was argued before the Supreme Court, at its session in Chicago, on appeal by Abner Taylor from a decision rendered by the Circuit Court in favor of Hiram A. Merrill, granting a decree for the specific performance of a contract for the sale of certain land. The Supreme Court, as it has nevertolore frequently done, finds that there was no solidarity in the real estate agents' lot sold, wherefore there is no contract to perform. Judge Scott wrote the opinion, which is as follows:

The questions involving the statute of frauds that arise in this case, are not of that difficult character in the case as heretofore presented. The solicitor for the complainant in his argument has practically conceded that a party cannot set up constructive fraud as a defense to a bill for specific performance of a contract for the sale of real estate, but must make out his defense by the evidence. For the reason that the defendant cannot have the benefit of constructive fraud, the question involving what constitutes a valid contract under the statute of frauds, and what parol evidence may be received to explain the contract, does not arise. It is also unnecessary to consider the question whether the bill of Merrill has stated such a case as entitles him to a decree for a specific performance, and if it should be held that any part of the bill was defective in this respect, it is sufficient that the defendants answered to the full knowledge of the contents of the bill, and thereby waived any objection to its sufficiency.

It is also unnecessary to consider the question whether Merrill was willing to perform all things on his part. He was willing to perform all things on the part of Taylor, having previously become satisfied that Taylor could make a title to the property. Merrill was ready and offered to pay him $14,000, and $14,000 was the consideration for the sale. Merrill, as is intimated in the bill, had purchased of Taylor a conveyance of the premises in question, and had given his notes therefor, which Taylor refused to take, and Merrill then tendered the money in exchange for a deed, which Taylor refused to make. The question of contract rests on the bill. We do not consider that the answer of Taylor denies the material allegations of the bill, but that it admits the contract as stated in the bill, but denies that the time of performance of the contract was of the essence of the contract, and sets up that Merrill had not performed his part of the contract within the time limited by the contract, and that Taylor had elected to rescind the contract on account of the failure of Merrill to perform within the time limited. The answer further sets up that the evidence of the contract was by parol, and that the same was void by the statute of frauds. The answer also sets up that Taylor was induced to enter into the contract by the false representations of Merrill, and that Merrill had failed to perform the contract on his part, and that Taylor had elected to rescind the contract on account of such failure. The answer also sets up that Taylor had been induced to enter into the contract by the false representations of Merrill, that he had no encumbrance upon the property

ANTI-MASONIC.

President Blanchard on Secret Societies in General, and Freemasonry in Particular.

The Order Denounced as Subversive of Religion, Morality, and a Republican Form of Government.

Last evening President Blanchard, of Wheaton College, delivered a lecture in Farwell Hall, entitled, "The Absolutism of Freemasonry to Popular Government and to Christian Religion"—an argument against secret societies. There were about six hundred persons present, many of them ladies—a very large proportion of the whole audience. After prayer the lecturer was introduced, and began by saying that he did not rise to express the opinions of the national association of Christians opposed to secret societies, but to express his own views in the capacity of—

—Infant class Sabbath-school teacher, and Officer in the Church of Christ. He was not a politician, an editor, a preacher, nor a lecturer, but a plain, unpretending man, who had been induced to speak on this subject by Miss E. J. Graham, of Chicago.

—The Saturday-night meeting for the study of the Sunday-school lesson, at Mr. Moody's, Hiram Kelly, chairman, meets every Saturday evening at seven o'clock. Mr. Kelly is a gentleman who received a note from Miss Graham, one of the best Sunday School talent in the country, requesting him to—

—Say something on this subject. He was glad to say that he had not been in a lodge room for twenty years, and had never been a member of any lodge; and he had not the least acquaintance with the subject. He had been induced to look into it, and had found that he came to regret that he attended the meeting. He brought with him the opinions of the national association of Christians opposed to secret societies, and expressed his views in the capacity of—

—A Christian citizen. He was not to be tried by his judge; he might be treated with reverence, but he was not to be worshiped. He was not to be treated with contempt, but with the respect due to a fellow-man. He was not to be treated with reverence, but with respect. He was not to be treated with contempt, but with respect